

REMARKS

Re-examination and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

Initially, Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for foreign priority , and for confirming receipt of the certified copy of the priority document. Applicants also thank the Examiner for confirming the acceptability of the filed drawings, and for considering all the documents cited in the filed Information Disclosure Statement.

The Examiner objects to the title of the application as being non-descriptive. By the current amendment, Applicants submit a new title that is submitted to more clearly describe the claimed invention. In view of the current amendment, Applicants submit that the objection to the title no longer exists, and respectfully requests withdrawal of this ground of objection.

Claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 14, 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as lacking proper antecedent basis . By the current amendment, Applicants amend the claims, paying particular attention to the concerns raised by the Examiner. In view of the revisions to the claims, Applicants submit that the ground for this rejection no longer exists. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection of claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 14, 17 and 18.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Partition Magic. In setting forth this rejection, Examiner asserts that Partition Magic discloses each and every feature recited in the pending claims, and refers Applicants to page 120 and Fig. 4.2 of Partition Magic. Applicants respectfully traverse this ground of rejection.

According to a feature of the present invention, described at, for example, pages 11 and 12 of the present application, an address attribute is a unit of address that is specified for access

to the recording region of the recording medium. Further, the address attribute corresponds to information that shows whether the address specified on access to each recording region should be specified in units of bytes or in units of sectors, in the data storage area 130 of the recording medium 100. In particular, the address attribute is defined as “0” when the recording region should be specified in units of bytes, and “1” when it should be specified in units of sectors.

Applicants submit that Partition Magic fails to disclose (or even suggest) this feature, and thus, Partition Magic fails to anticipate the pending claims of the instant invention. In this regard, Applicants submit that pages 120 and Fig. 4.2 of Partition Magic is silent with respect to an address attribute, or that an address attribute is a unit of address specified for access to a recording region of a recording medium. Applicants submit that the cited portions of Partition Magic merely relate to the formatting of a hard disk, and not to an address attribute that is a unit of address specified for access to the recording region of the recording medium.

By the current amendment, Applicants amend the independent claims to more clearly specify the above-discussed feature. In view of the above, Applicants submit that Partition Magic fails to anticipate the pending claims. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. §102 rejection of the pending claims, to indicate the allowability of claims 1, 3-10, and 12-18, and to pass the application to issue.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

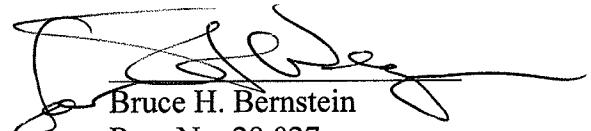
In view of the fact that none of the art of record, whether considered alone or in combination, discloses or suggests the present invention as now defined by the pending claims, and in further view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the Examiner's action and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested and are believed to be appropriate.

Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should the Commissioner determine that an extension of time is required in order to render this response timely and/or complete, a formal request for an extension of time, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), is herewith made in an amount equal to the time period required to render this response timely and/or complete. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any required extension of time fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

If there should be any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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